29th November 1928]

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"May I know whether Government will consider the advisability of the distribution of boarding grants among the Hindu orphans on the advice of the heads of the institutions since no Hindu orphanage exists ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"No, Sir, these grants are for orphanages."

Cost of housing and boarding for Indian orphans.

*834-B Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : With reference to the answer given to question No. 427 answered on 9th October 1928, will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what the average estimated approximate expenditure for housing and boarding Indian orphans in the several institutions mentioned in the answer is ; and

(b) what proportion of it Government have decided to pay in the coming year ?

A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) The Government grant does not represent any definite proportion of the boarding charges incurred by the orphanage. In accordance with the usual procedure, the total allotment will be distributed *pro rata* among the eligible children.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Is it a fact that no inquiry was made as to the capacity of the different institutions to look after the orphanages, and that money is given in a haphazard fashion . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I am afraid the hon. Member is asking for an opinion."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I want to know on what principle money is distributed among the orphanages ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I have examined the question and found that the money given is not sufficient."

Local Boards

Introduction of the Bill to amend the Local Boards Act.

*835 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Local Boards Act Amending Bill was circulated to all the district and taluk boards in the Presidency ;

(b) how many of these local bodies favoured the introduction of the proposed measure and how many expressed their disapproval of the same ; and

(c) whether he has decided to introduce the Bill, and, if so, when ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The replies so far received show that eight taluk boards are in favour of the Bill and twelve district boards and fifty-one taluk boards against it. The remaining district and taluk boards have not offered their remarks on the Bill as a whole.

(c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to clause (e) of question No. 719.